



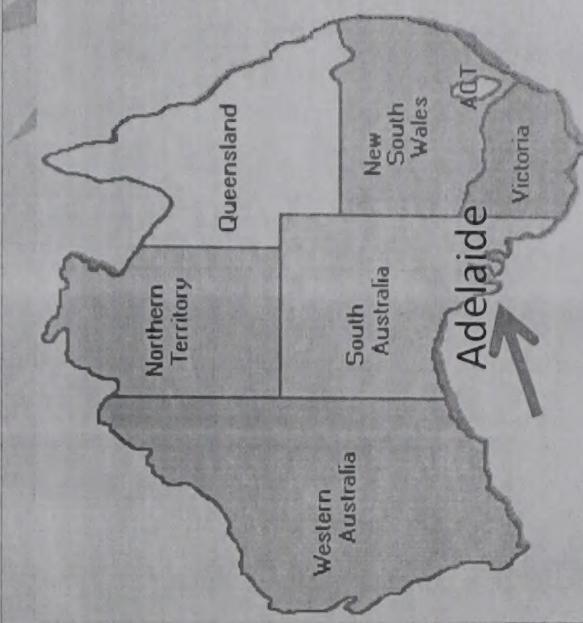
Unequal World in Crisis: what will it take to govern for health?

Professor Fran Baum AO
Southgate Institute for Health, Society and Equity
People's Health Movement - Australia
@baumfran

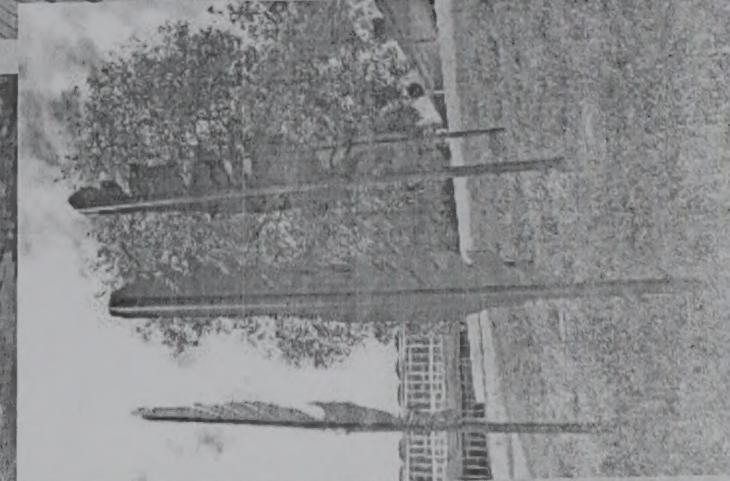
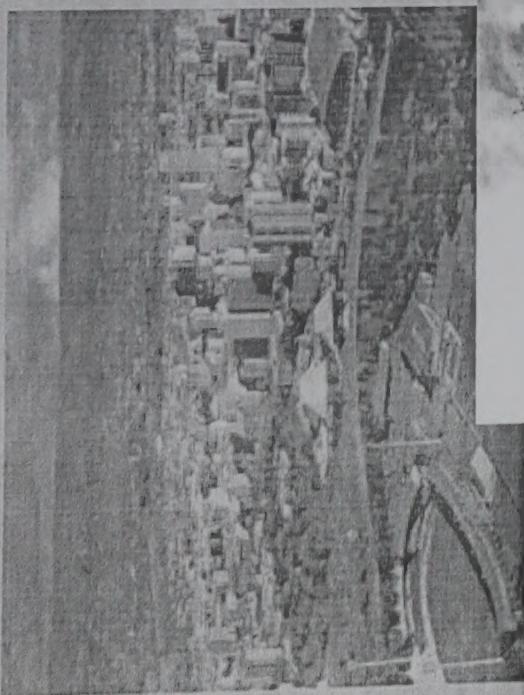


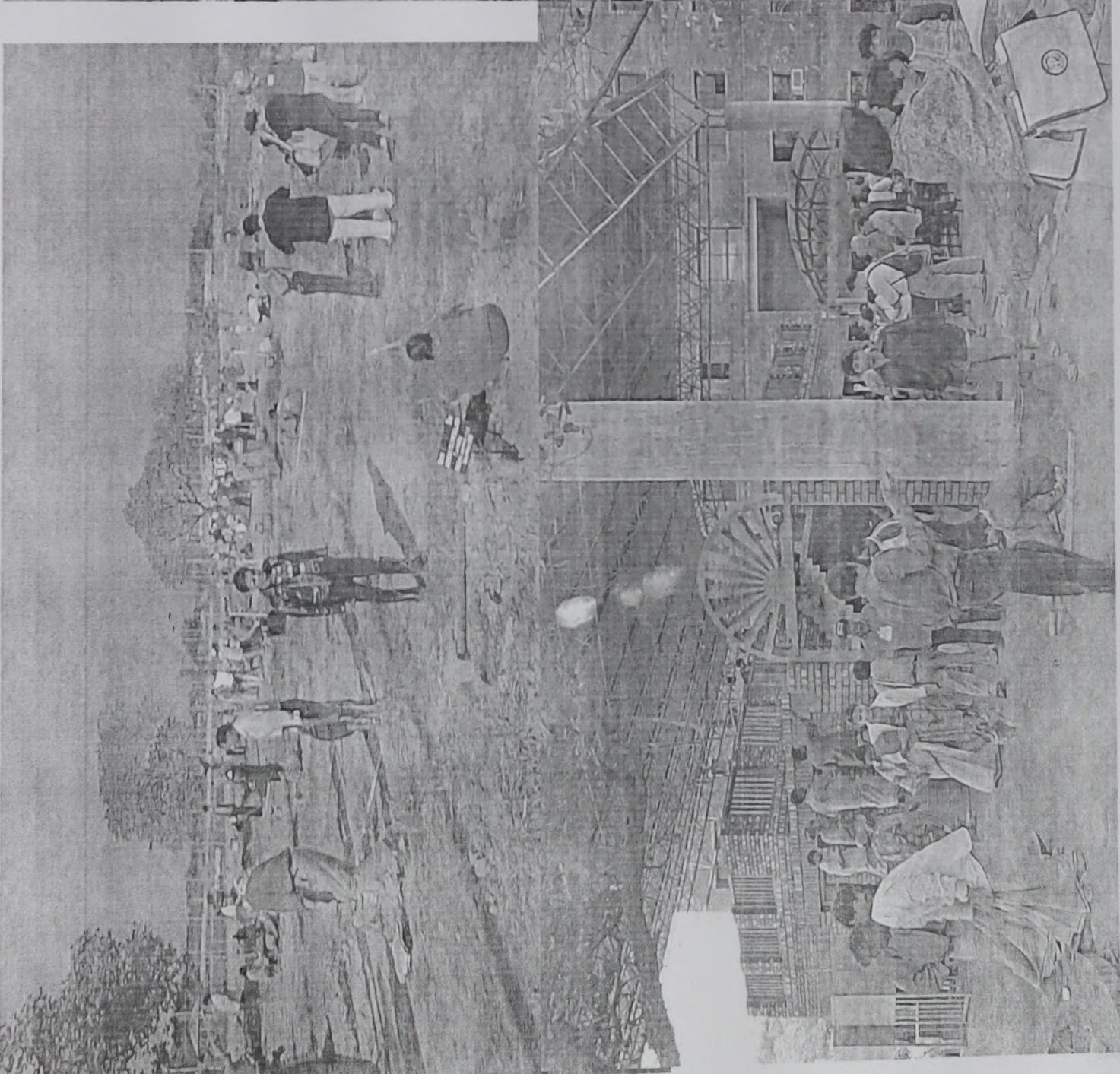
Plenary Address: 4th People's Health Assembly
Savar Bangladesh, 15th-19th November 2018

Greetings from the land of the Kaurna People,
Adelaide, South Australia!



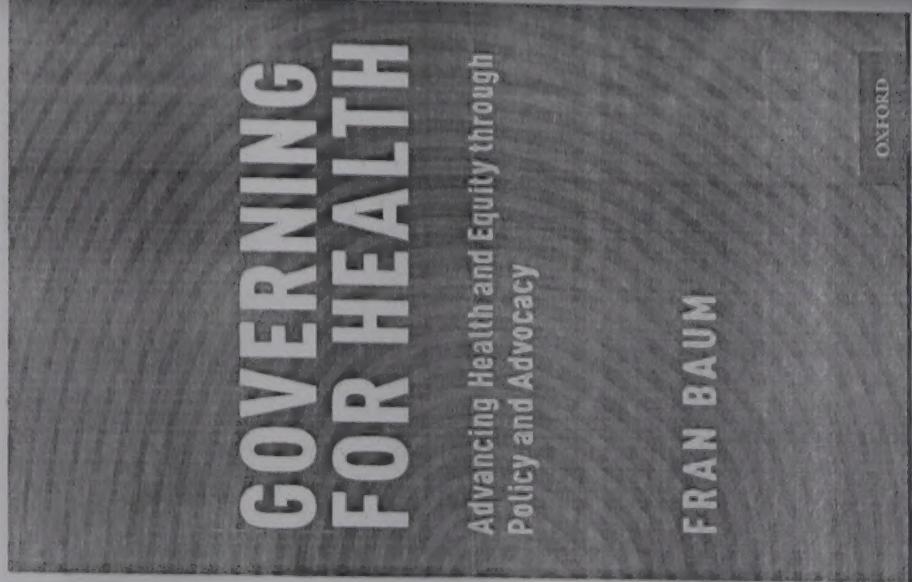
© 1800-Australia.com





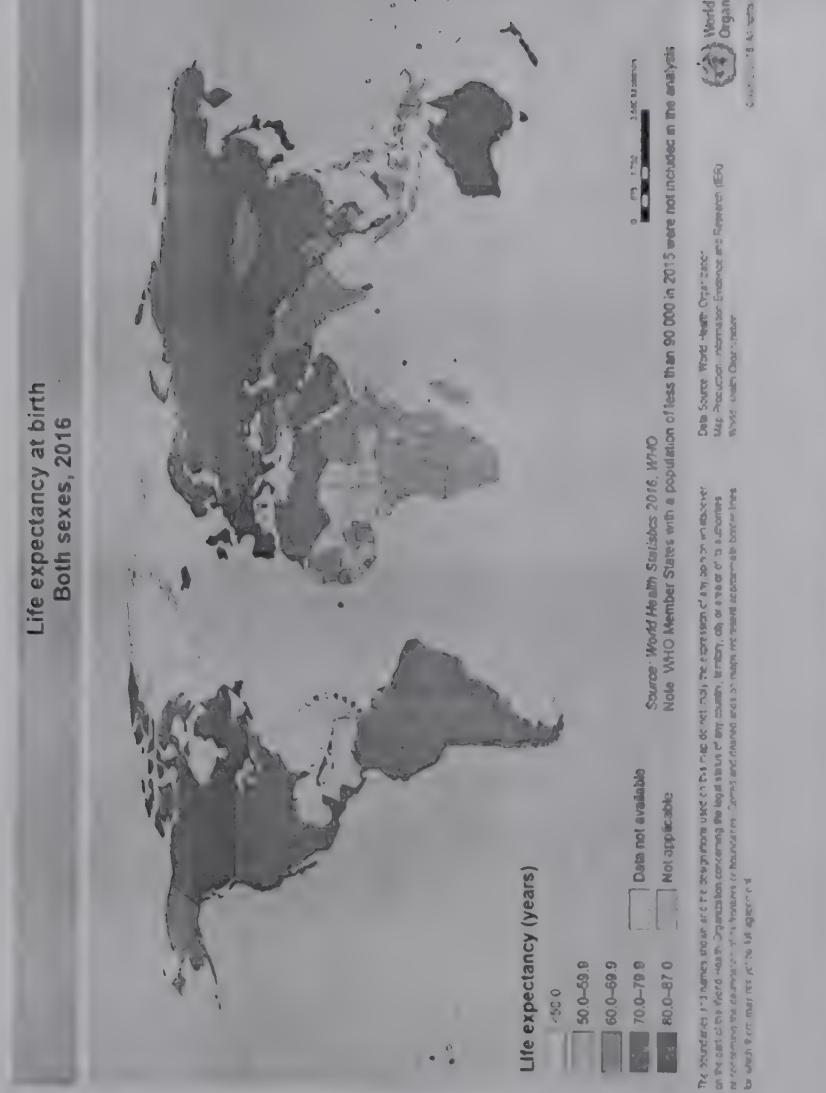
Overview

- Unequal distribution of health
- Whose health suffers most: people living in poverty, Indigenous peoples, Refugees, Children
- Overlapping crises
- Unequal economic system and social and ecological murder
- Governing for health not profit: examples



Health
People before profits
People before All Now!

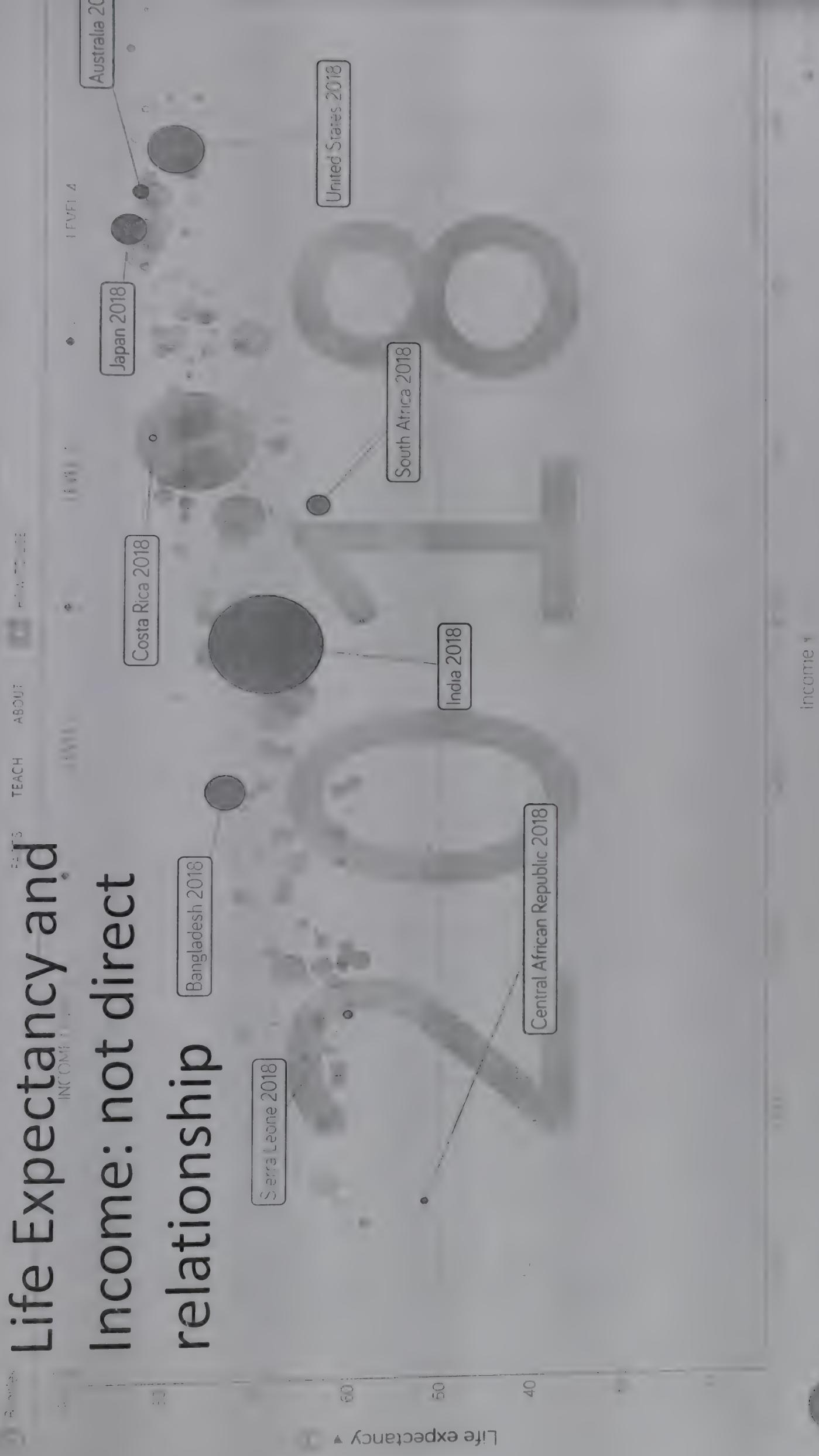
World Wealth and Life Expectancy maps



Source: James Daves, Rodrigo Lluberas and Anthony Shorrocks. Credit: [Global Wealth Databook 2016](#)

- Low income countries life expectancy is 62 years while in high income countries it is 81
- Life expectancy is 50 in Sierra Leone and 84 in Japan

Life Expectancy and
Income: not direct
relationship



Child deaths

- Everyday 16,000 children die before they are 5
- They are 14 x more likely to do so in sub-Saharan Africa
- Children from poorest 20% of households are twice as likely to die before they are 5

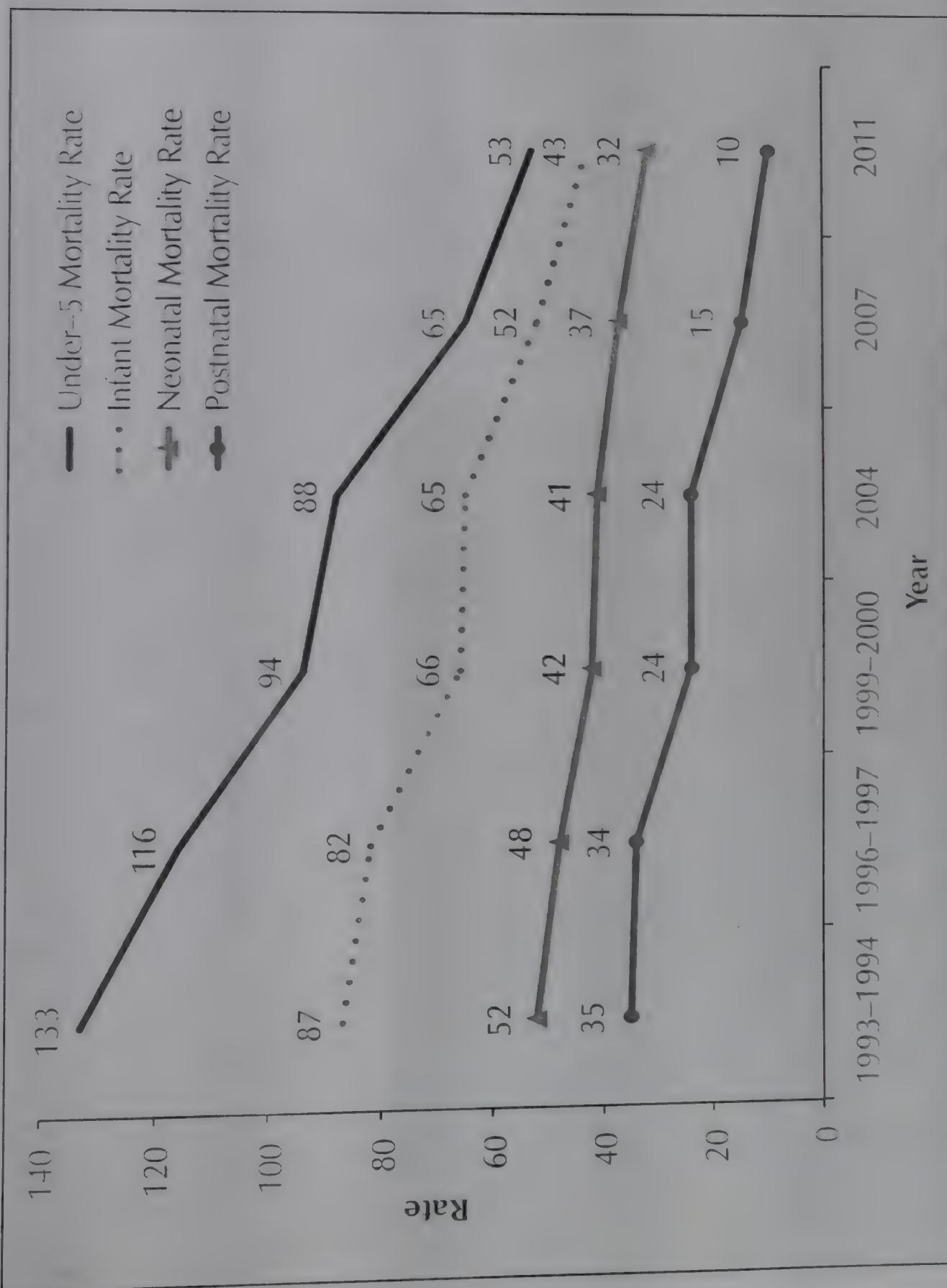


Under-five mortality (per 1000 life births) by wealth quintile



Data source: Demographic and Health Surveys. Survey data between 1996 and 2004.

Figure 5: Mortality trends in children in Bangladesh, 1993–2011



World-wide health crisis for Indigenous peoples and refugees

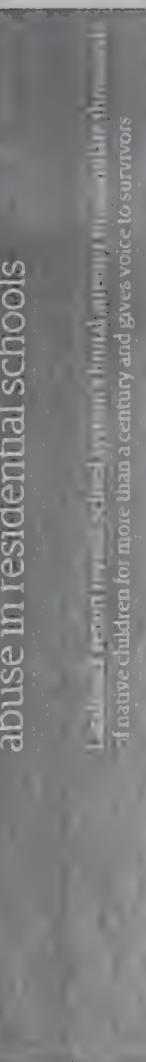
Colonisation: Language and land taken, Genocide, culture not valued

68.5 million displaced people including 24.5 refugees

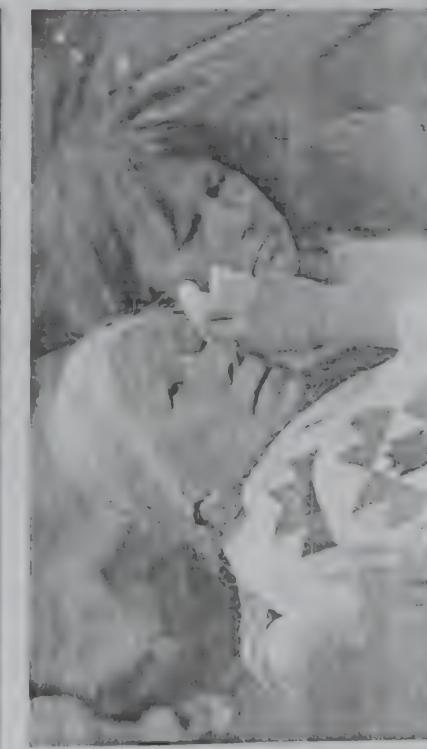
2017: 2.9 million new asylum seekers



Deliberate public policies to wipe out Indigenous cultures



May 11th, 2019 in Toronto



- Stolen Generation in Australia
- Residential boarding Schools in Canada
- Creation of reserves in US



Political exploitation of fear of difference: refugees and asylum seekers

The guardian Donald Trump: ban all Muslims entering US

Donald Trump Donald J. Trump

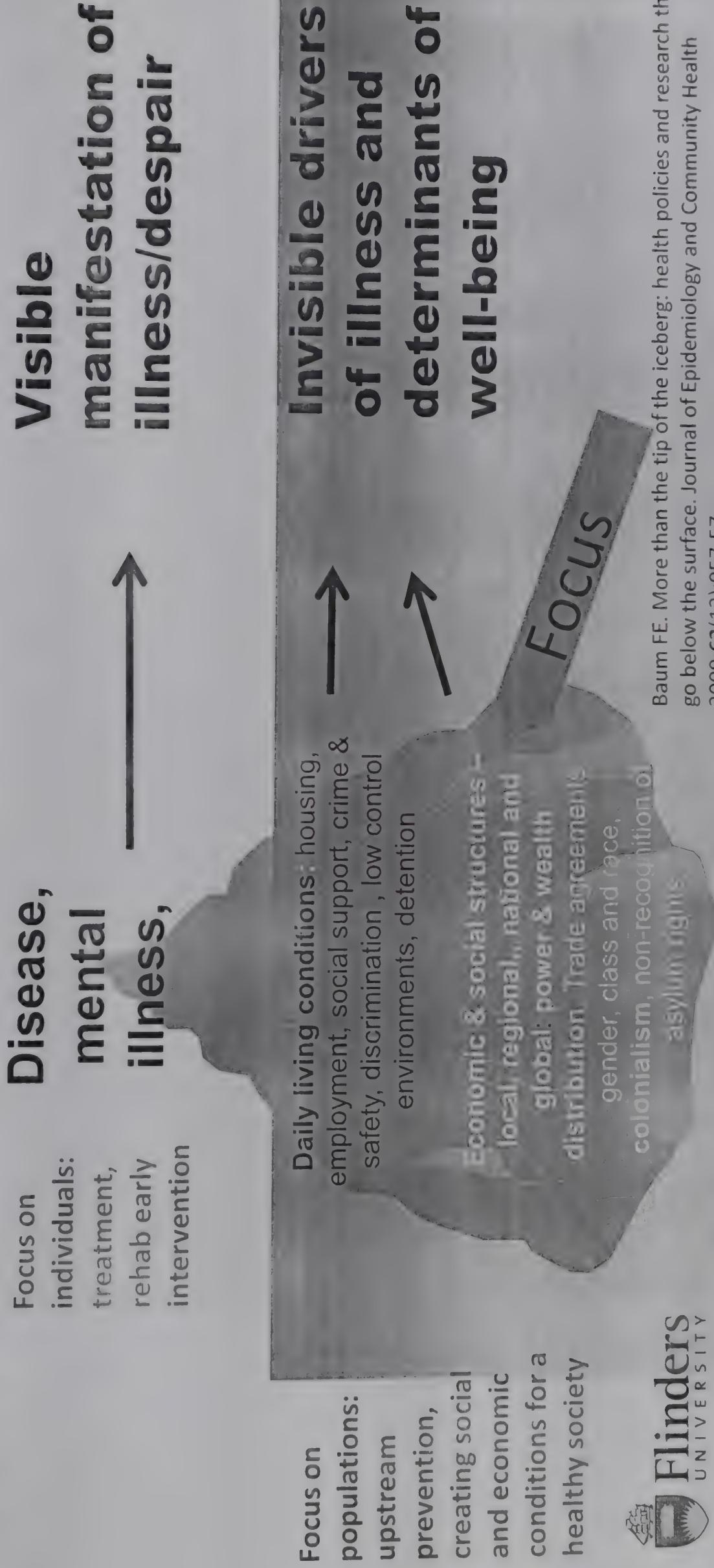
Border Patrol Agents are not allowed to properly do their job at the Border because of ridiculous liberal (Democrat) laws like Catch & Release. Getting more dangerous "Caravans" coming. Republicans must go to Nuclear Option to pass tough laws NOW. NO MORE DACA DEAL!

Refugees NOT Welcome

AME, C.M.U, LOGEMENT, SOCIAL ALLOCATIONS, PRESTATIONS... L'IMMIGRATION nous coûte 60 milliards d'€ par an STOP!

Front National Votez

Understand the iceberg: look below the surface



Baum FE. More than the tip of the iceberg: health policies and research that go below the surface. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* 2009;63(12):957-57

World wealth compared with population

Continent	Total wealth (billions USD)	Share (billions USD)	Population (2018)	% of World Population
World	280.3	100%	7.6 Billion	100%
North America	101.0	36.0%	363.8 Million	4.77%
Europe	79.6	28.4%	741.4 Million	9.83%
Asia-Pacific	55.0	19.6%	4.5 Billion	59.66%
Latin America	8.1	2.9%	654.2 Million	8.55%
Africa	2.5	0.9%	1.2 Billion	16.64%

2,208 Billionaires
Together they have US\$9.1
Trillion in wealth

THE 2018 LIST



#1 Jeff Bezos



#2 Bill Gates



#3 Warren Buffett



#4 Bernard Arnault &
family



#5 Mark Zuckerberg



#6 Amancio Ortega



#7 Carlos Slim &
family



#8 David Koch



#10 Larry Ellison

Unequal world

- Jeff Bezos – richest man in the world
 - Malawi: mean wealth US\$114 Bezos's wealth is equivalent to that of 8,771,930 Malawi people
- Amazon
- Net worth US 150 billion
- (1 billion = one thousand million)
 - Bangladesh: mean wealth US\$ 2612 Bezos's wealth is equivalent to that of 382,263 Bangladeshi people



Unfair trade =
concentration
of wealth



Inequities Growing

- In 2017 82% of all wealth created in the last year went to the top 1%, while the bottom 50% saw no increase at all
- Data from Credit Suisse show 42 people now own the same wealth as the bottom 3.7 billion people
- The three richest people in the US own the same wealth as the bottom half of the US population (roughly 160 million people)
- Dangerous, poorly paid work for the many is supporting extreme wealth for the few. Women are in the worst work, and almost all the super-rich are men.



REWARD WORK, NOT WEALTH

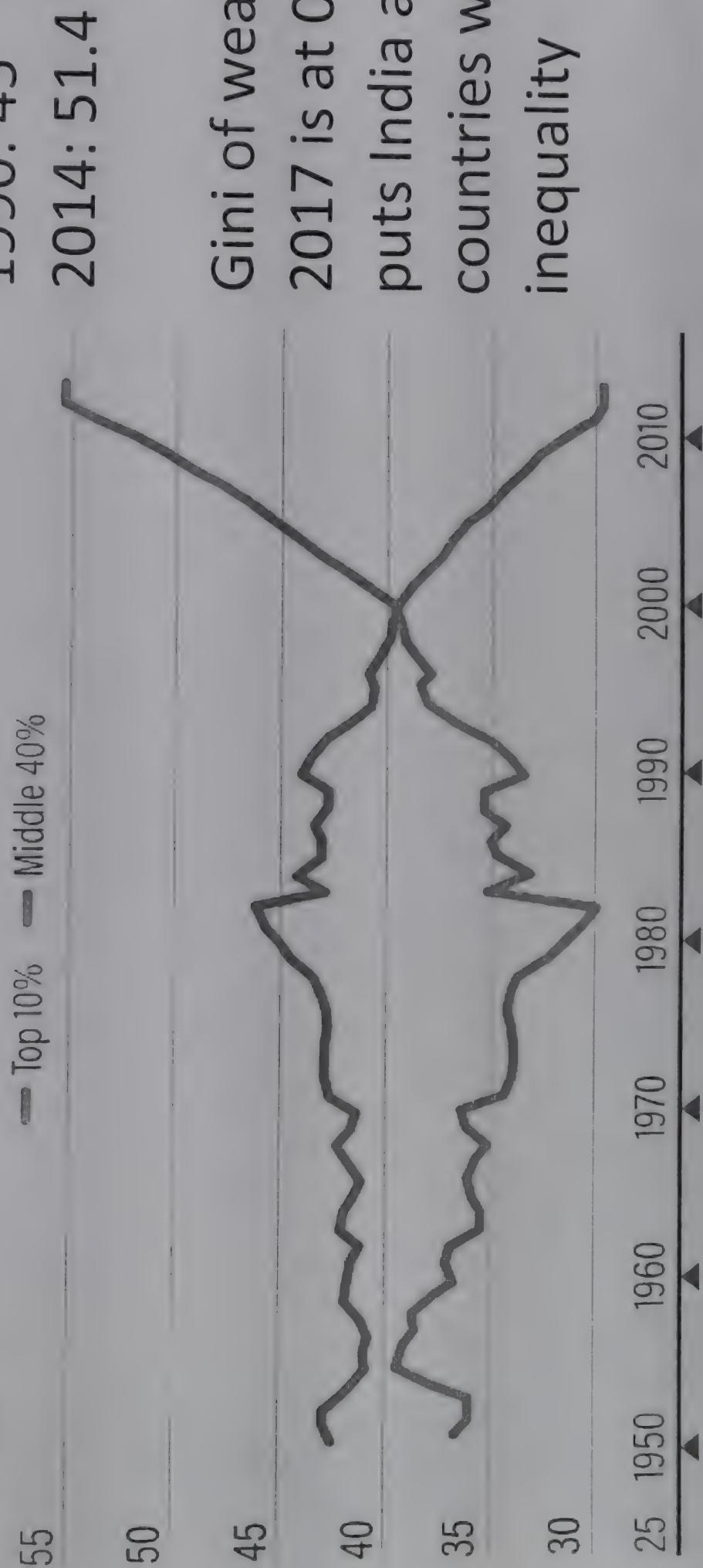
To end the inequality crisis, we must build an economy for ordinary working people, not the rich and powerful.

EMBARGOED UNTIL 06:01 HRS GMT MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2018

India: income inequality

India income share: Top 10% compared with middle 40%

1951-2014



Gini co-efficient Income
India:

1990: 45
2014: 51.4

Gini of wealth in India in
2017 is at 0.83, which
puts India among
countries with high
inequality

Source: widworld

GINI Index for Bangladesh

FRED. ↗ GINI Index for Bangladesh

33

32

31

30

29

28

27

26

25

2008 2010 2012 2014

Source: World Bank

myfred.glocm

China Gini
Index Income:
1990: 33
2014: 53

Source: World Bank, GINI Index for Bangladesh [SIPOVGINIBGD], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/SIPOVGINIBGD>, October 30, 2018.



Flinders
UNIVERSITY



HIGH INCOME INEQUALITY

LOW INCOME INEQUALITY

High income inequality
High mental illness prevalence

Low income inequality
Low mental illness prevalence

Corporations and health

- Profit before social, health and equity concerns
- Tax avoidance
- Huge salaries for Executives
- Powerful lobbies to encourage privatisation of key services – water, gas, electricity, prisons etc in past 30 years
 - No evidence that privatisations have resulted in the price cuts or increased efficiencies promised
 - Expensive regulation required and paid for by national budgets
 - Environmental costs externalised



Ecological disaster staring us in the face

“Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance.” Theodore Roosevelt

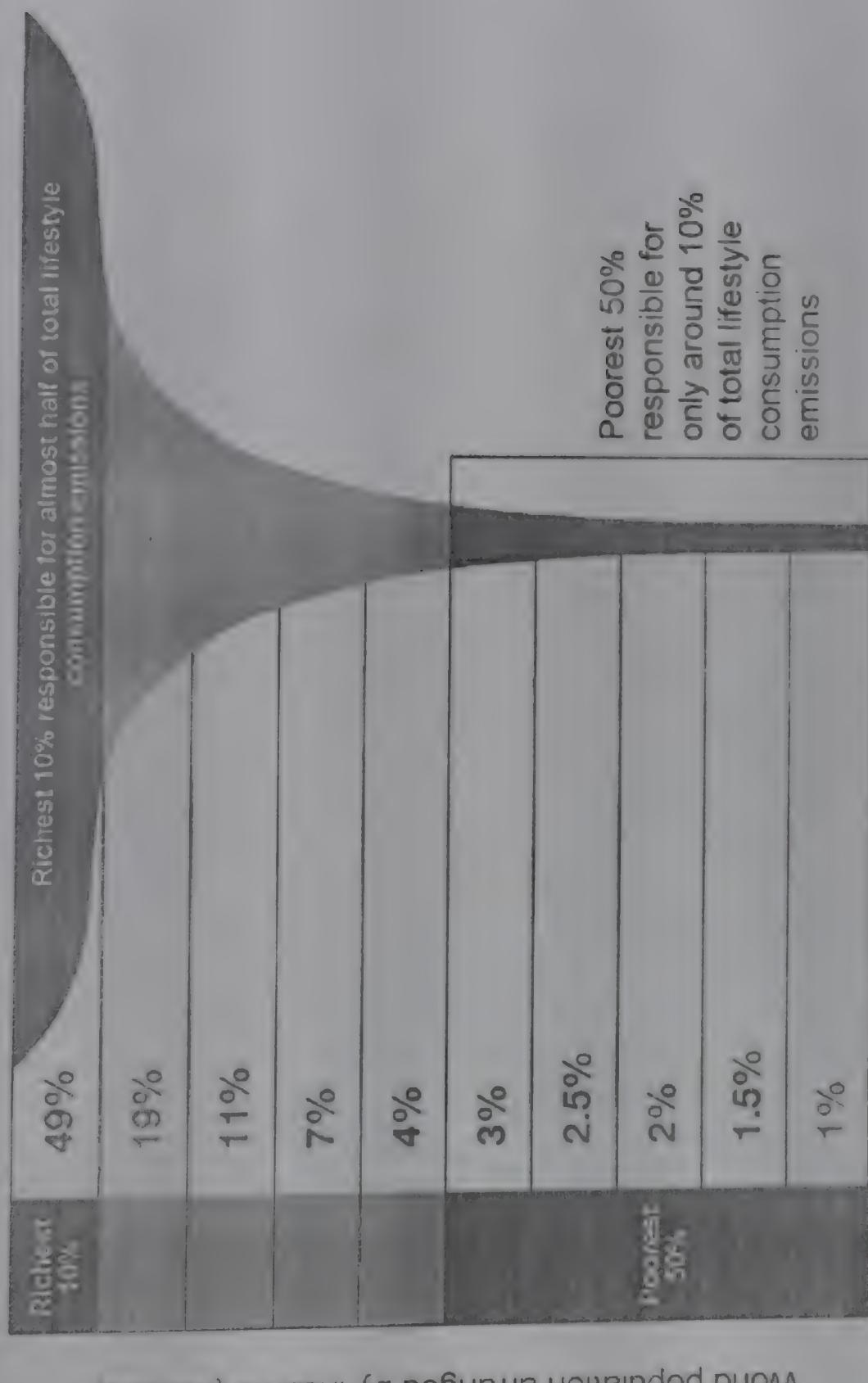
“Climate change is the defining health issue of the 21st Century.....A ruined planet cannot sustain human lives in good health”

Dr. Margaret Chan (2016a) WHO Director General



Figure 1: Global income deciles and associated lifestyle consumption emissions

Percentage of CO₂ emissions by world population



Source: Oxfam

Fake news, free speech threatened

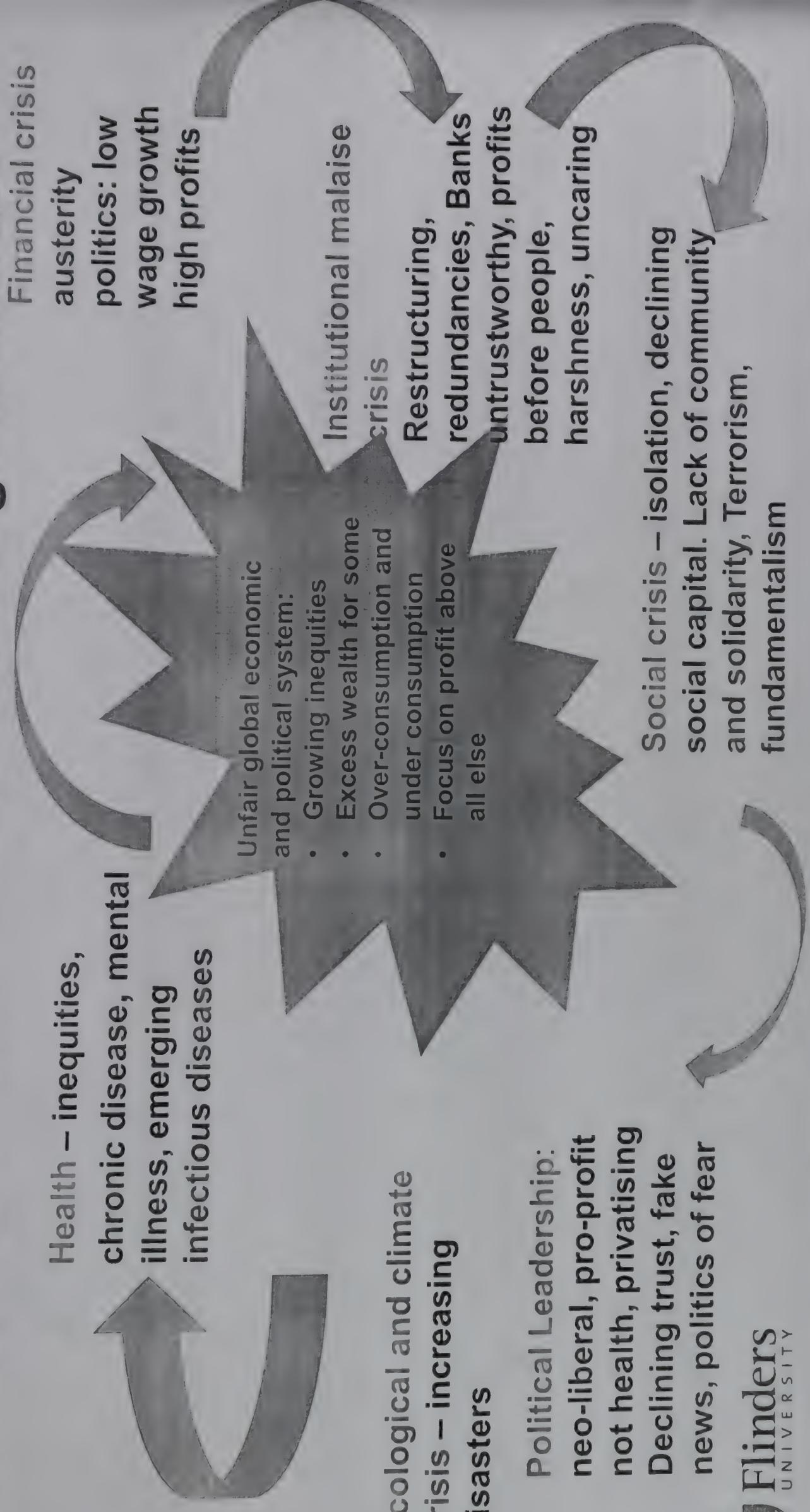
“The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it.”

-George Orwell

- Politics of fear
- Fake news
- Evidence ignored
- Journalists persecuted and murdered
- Culture wars



Overlapping Crises = social & ecological murder



Political Leadership:
neo-liberal, pro-profit
not health, privatising
Declining trust, fake news, politics of fear

Social murder

- "the class which at present holds social and political control places hundreds of proletarians in such a position that they inevitably meet a too early and an unnatural death".

Engels The Condition of the Working Class in England (1845)

- Social murder is happening across the world today

THE STAR

Opinion · Contributors

Social murder and the Doug Ford government

By DENNIS RAPHAEL Opinion
Mon., Oct. 3, 2016

In this Free Press column, the Star's Dennis Raphael writes on issues such as:
Municipal debt, pension reform, health care, education, the environment, the economy, and more.

"It is no measure of health
to be well adjusted to
a profoundly sick society."
~ Krishnamurti



Governing for health rather than profit: examples of how we reduce social and ecological murder

- ❖ Fair economy: economic decisions for health not profit, taxation and taming corporations
- ❖ Measure health and well-being not just the economy
- ❖ Employment, homes and healthy environments
- ❖ Protect the environment from profit seekers



Source: Baum, F (2019) *Governing for Health: Advancing Health and Equity through Policy and Advocacy*, New York: Oxford University Press

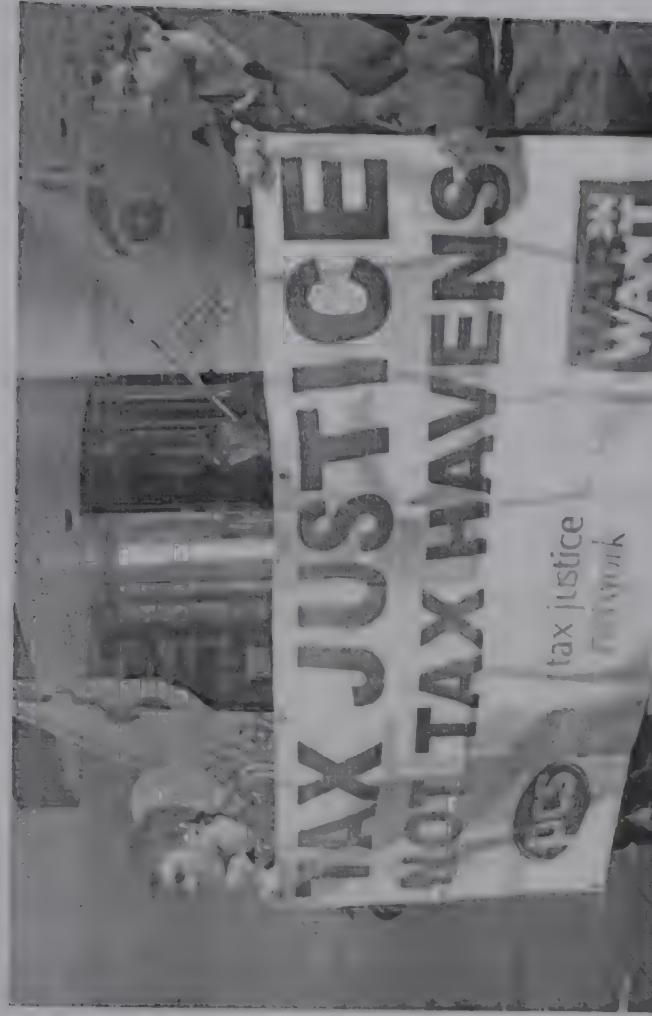
Even the beast itself says we need to be more equal: International Monetary Fund on inequities



- Christine Lagarde (2013) (Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund) has described inequality as corrosive to growth and society and considers it should be reduced
- IMF publish article (Ostry, et al, 2016) “Neoliberalism oversold” and point to its role in growing inequities and express concern about the adverse impacts of inequities “*The evidence of the economic damage from inequality suggests that policymakers should be more open to redistribution than they are.*”

Govern for tax justice

- Shut down tax avoidance strategies
- Use progressive taxes to redistribute wealth
- Promote taxes as necessary for public goods and services vital to health
- Build on public willingness to pay taxes when they are used for common good and are fair



Embargoed until 6am, Monday 25 November

SACOSS launches "pro-taxes" campaign:
Without taxes, vital services disappear.

Imagine if the Gates Foundation Money had instead been given to the UN to support WHO and the implementation of the SDGs.



We don't want billionaires' charity. We want them to pay their taxes | ...

The super-wealthy should give their money to governments that know better how to spend it, says the Guardian columnist Owen Jones theguardian.com

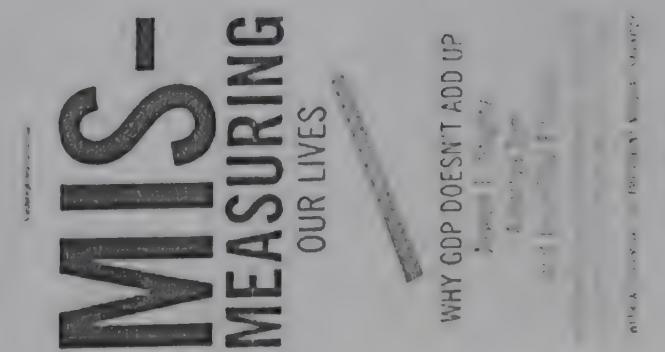
Transparency, Democracy and Inclusivity

- Cultural diversity and safety
- Participation in political processes
- Meaningful participation for groups with limited economic and social power
- Limit lobbying by TNCS and other profit seekers
- Free press and independent investigative journalism



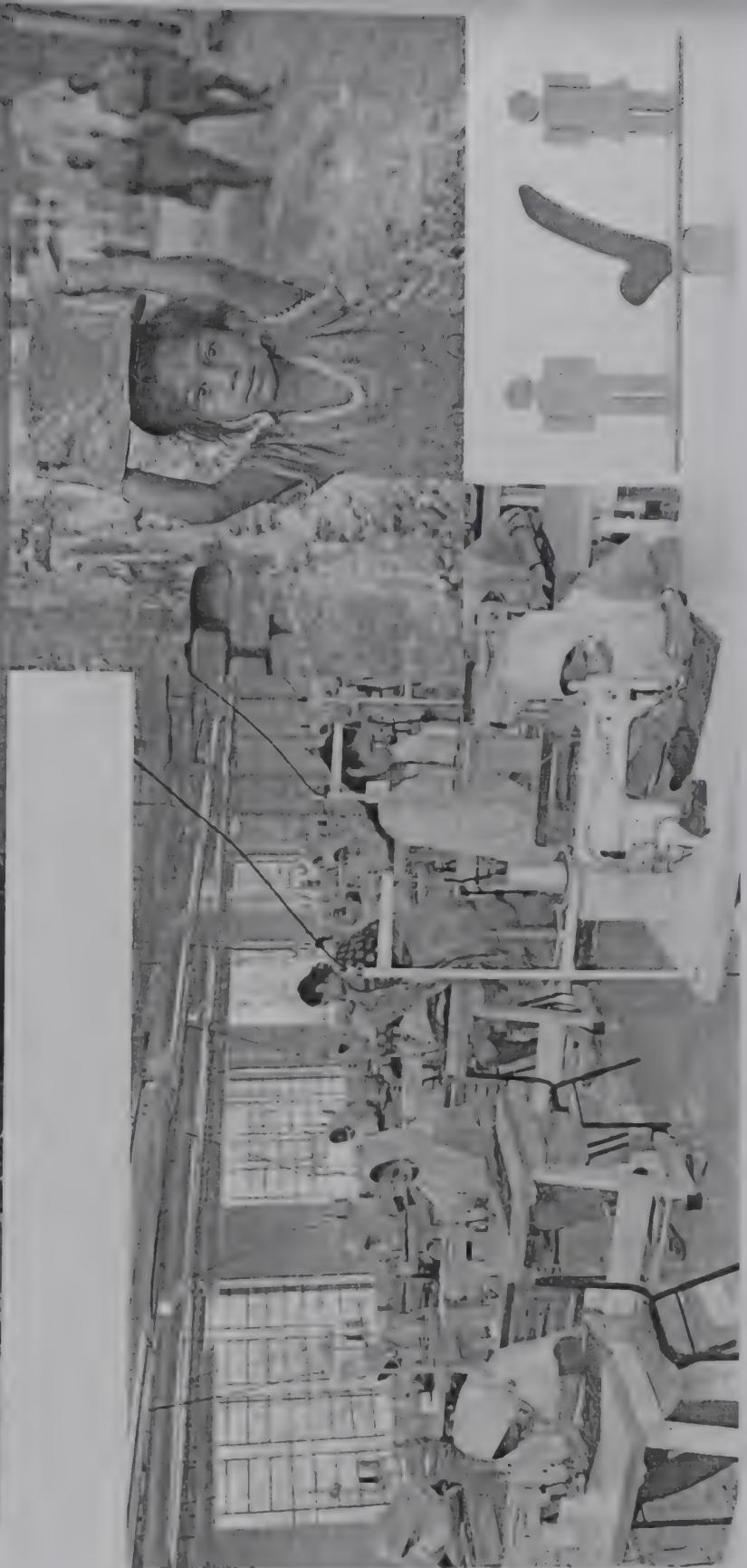
Economic: measure what we treasure and create equity

- Measure national and global progress by:
 - Improvements in mental and physical health
 - Reductions in economic inequities in income and wealth
 - Fairness of trading and other economic systems

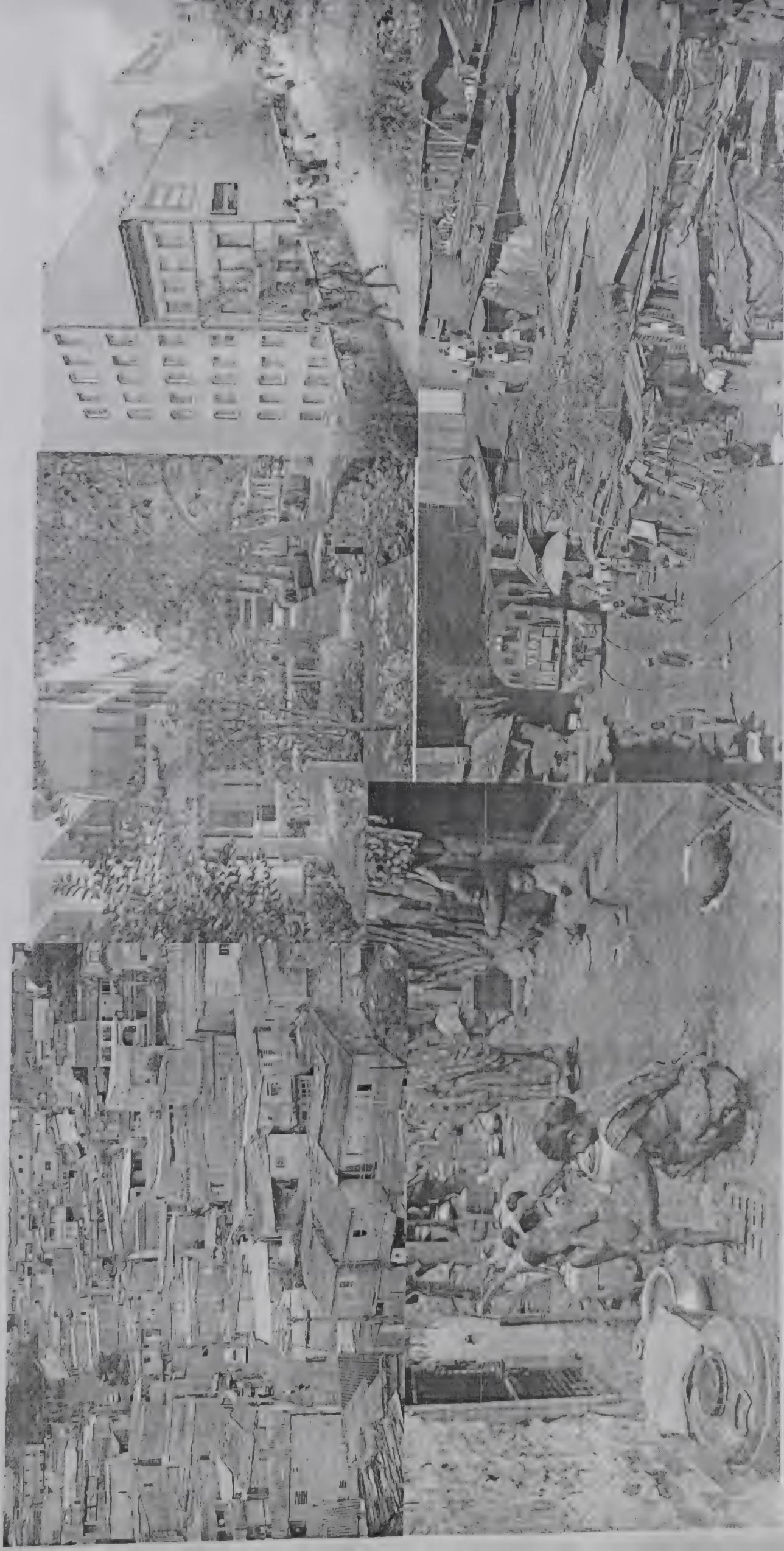


Employment

- Create meaningful, secure work
- Liveable income support for those without work
- Gender equity
- Value unpaid work



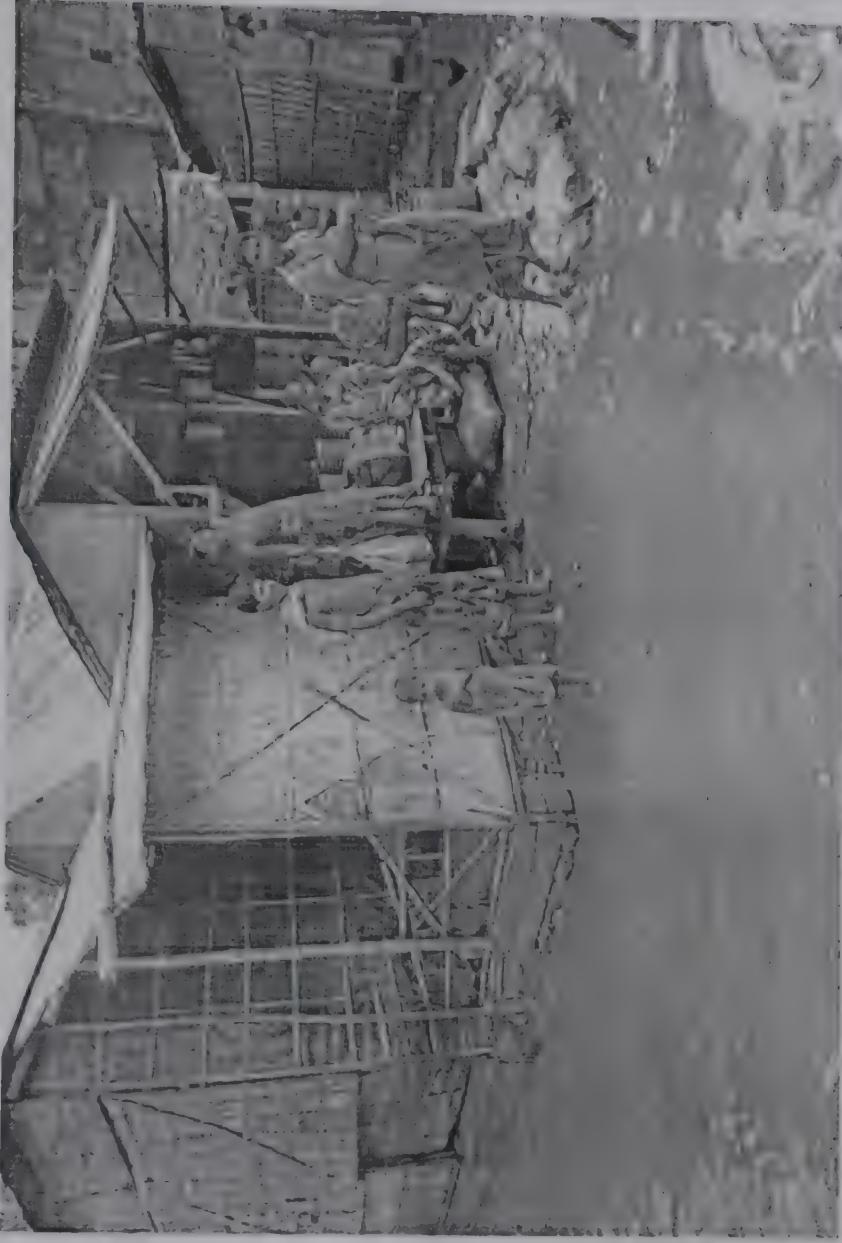
Housing and healthy environments for all



Govern to take notice of IPCC 2018 report:

Limit Global Warming to 1.5 °C

“Limiting warming to 1.5°C will make it markedly easier to achieve the SDGs for poverty eradication, water access, safe cities, food security, healthy lives, and inclusive economic growth, and will help to protect terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity (medium evidence, high agreement).”



Govern for ecological health

- Tackle global warming
- Restore natural environments
- Protect biodiversity
- Biophilia
- Buen Vivir and Indigenous knowledge on country and nature



Conclusion

- We need to:
- Govern for health and wellbeing
NOT profit
- Stop social murder
- Redistribute wealth
- Tame corporations
- Provide healthy employment
and housing for all
- Protect and value the natural
environment

The Spirit Level

Why Equality
is Better for Everyone

Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett

'A big idea, big enough to change political thinking'
Sunday Times
'A compelling theory of everything' *Guardian*



50

High
Tension
People
from
all over
the world
are
now
negotiating
for
more
rights
and
privileges.

@baumfran



This is the measure of health
to be well adjusted
to a profoundly sick society

Jiddu Krishnamurti

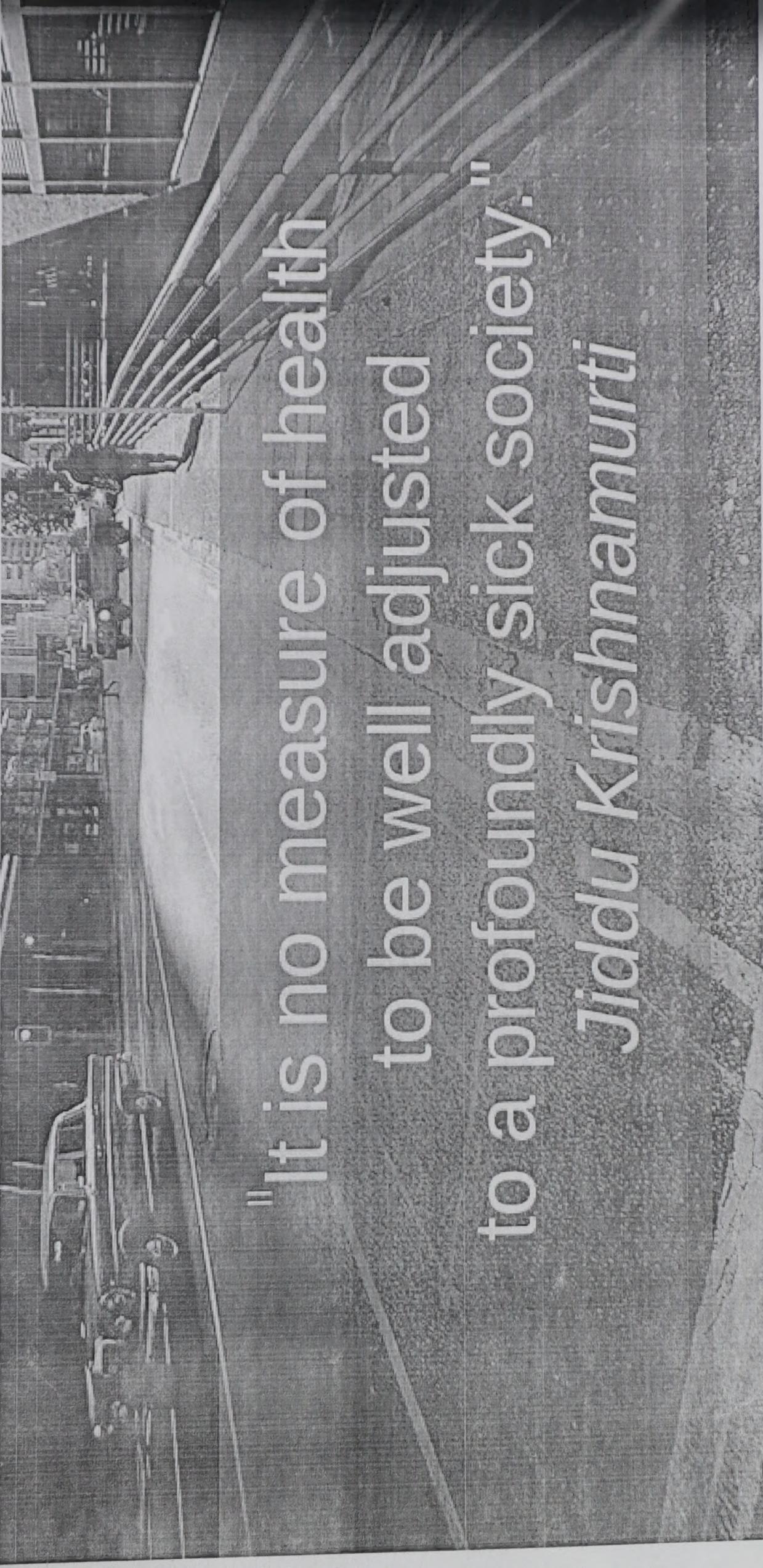
It is no measure of health to
be well adjusted to a
profoundly sick society.

Alphonse Mucha



**It is no measure of health
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Jiddu Krishnamurti



"It is no measure of health
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